

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 09803 261840Z

17

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 CU-02 L-03 /037 W

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R 261643Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7805

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY QUITO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PE

SUBJECT: SIL TACTICS IN FACE CONTINUING HOSTILE PRESS CAMPAIGN

REF: LIMA 9628; BOGOTA 11230

1. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY BOGOTA POINTED OUT INACCURACY AFP STORY ABOUT ALLEGED EXPULSION OF SUMMER INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS (SIL), NO CORRECTION HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN LIMA. RATHER, WEEKEND PRESS PUBLICIZED DENUNCIATION OF SIL BY PEASANTS ORGANIZATION IN JUNGLE AREA OF LORETO. DURING PRESS INTERVIEW OF MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WHO WAS VISITING THAT DISTANT REGION, PEASANTS' SPOKESMAN INTERJECTED CONDEMNATION OF "POLICY OF (FOREIGN INTERFERENCE AND) INFILTRATION BY SIL". THE GOP-OWNED LA CRONICA EDITORIALIZED NOVEMBER 24 THAT THE PEASANTS' PETITION SHOULD BE GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION IN VIEW OF "THE FACT (SIC) THAT IN PANAMA AND COLOMBIA SIL HAS BEEN EXPELLED".

2. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION BISHOP OF CALLAO TOLD CHARGE NOVEMBER 24 THAT SIL SHOULD SPEAK OUT TO SET RECORD STRAIGHT, AND OTHERS FEEL THE SAME. HOWEVER, THE SIL SPOKESMAN IN PERU, DR. LAMBERT ANDERSON, TOLD EMBOFF THAT

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PAGE 02 LIMA 09803 261840Z

PERUVIAN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION HAS ADVISED SIL TO REFER ALL

INQUIRIES TO THE MINISTRY AND NOT TO TRY TO PLACE PRO-SIL
PUBLICITY, ESPECIALLY IN THE MODERATE-LINE WEEKLY MAGAZINES.
DR. ANDERSON IS CARRYING OUT THIS ADVICE EVEN TO EXTENT THAT
HE DECLINES TO GIVE BACKGROUNDEERS TO
U.S. NEWSMEN AND REFERS ALL COMERS TO
MINEDUC. IN VIEW OF THIS POLICY, WE ARE ADDING TO END OF OUR
STANDBY, "IF ASKED" STATEMENT ON SIL IN PERU THE FOLLOWING:
QTE. THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION IS THE COMPETENT SOURCE FOR
EVALUATING SIL'S PROGRAM IN PERU AND FOR ANSWERING INQUIRIES
ON ITS CURRENT OPERATIONS. END QTE.

3. COMMENT: IN VIEW OF FACT THAT MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE'S
PRESS CONFERENCE WAS FORUM FOR ATTACKING SIL EVEN THOUGH
PROGRAM IS UNDER OFFICIAL EVALUATION BY MINEDUC, AS WELL AS
CONTINUED ERROR OF FACT IN PRESS REPORTING, WE HOPE MINEDUC
WILL SOON TAKE STEPS TO SET RECORD STRAIGHT. THE SIL LEADERS
SEEM SANGUINE THAT THIS WILL EVENTUALLY BE DONE,
AND THAT BY FEBRUARY ALL WILL TURN OUT SATISFACTORILY,
THUS ALLOWING RENEWAL OF THEIR CONTRACT IN PERU.
BARNEBEY

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